

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 25X1A

DATE DISTR. 22 JAN 51

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

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SUBJECT The Soko Coal Mine

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The new Soko coal mine, opened in 1947, is located 600 meters north of the old mine. The mine is administered by a director who is subordinate to the Ministry of Mines of the Republic of Serbia in Belgrade.

2. The planned production figures are as follows:

1948 - 48,000 tons
1949 - 55,000 tons
1950 - 60,000 tons

The actual output figures are:

1948 - 50,000 tons
1949 - 60,000 tons
1950 - January and February - 9,000 tons

3. Coal reserves*

Category A - 180,000 tons
Categories B and C - 600,000 tons

The analysis of the coal is as follows:

Ash content - 9 percent
Water content - 15 percent
Calories - 5,000

4. Because of the good quality, the coal is being supplied to various ministries and governmental departments in Belgrade and to the armament factory at Kragujevac. The coal is transported by road to the Knjazevac-Jezava railroad station for onward transmission by rail.

5. Factors limiting output

- a. Shortage of motor transport including spare parts.
- b. Shortage of gasoline and oil.

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- c. Lack of modern machinery and equipment, particularly coal cutters, perforating machines, hoisting equipment and iron and steel items, such as rails and tools.

6. Developments

- a. A new workers' colony, including messes, directorate offices and mine workshops are under construction.
- b. The electric power station is being re-equipped with a new plant.
- c. A new high tension power line is being constructed from the Vina-Zvezdan power station. When completed, this line will provide additional power at 6,000 volts for the mine.
- d. A new shaft hoist is being installed in the mine.

7. Machinery and equipment

a. The mine

- 1) One electric winding engine with a capacity of two cubic meters.
- 2) Three ventilators of 250 and/or 500 cubic meter capacity.
- 3) Five electrically operated cranes.
- 4) Twelve centrifugal pumps with a capacity of between 80 and 500 liters per minute.
- 5) Ten electrical perforating machines (125 volts) with transformers.
- 6) Six electrically operated ventilators of 200 mm. diameter.
- 7) One hundred mine cars each of 500 kilogram capacity.
- 8) Two hundred and fifty benzine safety lamps.
- 9) Twenty electric lamps with accumulators.

b. Transport

- 1) One Renault car for the executive staff.
- 2) Five Diamond trucks, three Skoda trucks, and one Federal truck.

c. Workshops are equipped with:

- 1) Two turning lathes.
- 2) One milling machine.
- 3) Two perforating machines (old).
- 4) Four new Kroelius perforating machines.
- 5) Two electrical welding sets.
- 6) Two limb sets.
- 7) One steel saw.

- d. There is also a water reservoir with a capacity of 20,000 liters.

8. The total number of employees of the mine is 740. Mining is carried out in three 8-hour shifts per day, but because of the shortage of transportation facilities, work is usually limited to six days per week. Living conditions are better than in the average mine in Yugoslavia.

9. The mine employs approximately fifty forced laborers serving sentences of up to two months. They are accommodated in private houses in the area or

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in the workers' colony. With the exception of ten dinars per day, their pay is credited to the Ministry of the Interior. Forced laborers from the area who are serving a sentence of over two months, are sent to other places to work.

10. The security of the mine is the responsibility of the Mine Militia, approximately fourteen of all ranks, who are accommodated in a house near the power station. The Mine Militia is subordinate to the National Militia headquarters in Soko-Banja.

11. Personalities

- a. Branko Delic : Mine director
- b. Peter Martin : Technical manager
- c. Mihailo Kucic : A technician employed in the directorate.

~~SECRET~~ Comment: For explanation of the three categories of coal reserves see ~~SECRET~~ paragraph 6.

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